

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

A. Please amend the title as follows:

~~ORIFICE SEALING~~ PHYSICAL BARRIER FOR SEALING AN ORIFICE

B. In the specification, please replace paragraph [0022] starting on page 3 with the following paragraph:

The physical barrier 10 of the present invention consists of a plastic carrier 12 and a sealer patch 14 as shown in FIGS. 1A and 1B. Carrier 12 includes a deck 16 and at least one snap-fit fastener 18. Together, carrier 12 and patch 14 form physical barrier 10 for an orifice in a panel member, where deck 16 supports the center of patch 14, such that patch 14 does not collapse into the orifice. Carrier 12 and patch 14 may be shaped and sized to accommodate any orifice in the panel member.

C. In the specification, please replace paragraph [0023] on page 4 with the following paragraph:

The at least one snap-fit fastener 18 in FIGS. 1A and 1B is a plurality of protrusions 20 which are generally perpendicular to the plane of deck 16. These protrusions encompass a majority of the perimeter defined by the protrusions. Protrusions 20 include an edge 22 and a holding surface 23.

D. In the specification, please replace paragraph [0024] on page 4 with the following paragraph:

The at least one snap-fit fastener 18 in FIGS. 2, 3 and 4 3A, 3B, 4A, and 4B is a plurality of S-shaped clips 24. The long axis of S-shaped clips 24 lies in the plane of the carrier deck 16. S-shaped clips 24 include a holding surface 25 and may include a tail 26.

E. In the specification, please replace paragraph [0026] on page 4 with the following paragraph:

Snap-fit fasteners 18 may be any fastener which causes carrier 12 to snap into position, *i.e.*, into the orifice to be sealed. The snap-fit fasteners illustrated in FIGS. ~~1-5~~ 1A, 1B, 2, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 5A, and 5B are not meant to be limiting, but rather only demonstrative.

F. In the specification, please replace paragraph [0027] on page 4 with the following paragraph:

As shown in FIGS. ~~1, 4 and 5~~ 1A, 1B, 4A, 4B, 5A, and 5B, deck 16 may include a circumferential ridge 34 which defines a recess into which a protrusion (not shown) on patch 14 may be placed. This helps ensure that the patch 14 is properly placed on the carrier. The ridge-protrusion combination also helps to ensure the patch remain in place during insertion of the physical barrier into the orifice.

G. In the specification, please replace paragraph [0028] on page 4 with the following paragraph:

As shown in FIGS. ~~3 and 4~~ 3A, 3B, 4A, and 4B, carrier 12 may also include multiple legs 36, which are positioned between snap-fit clips 24 and are oriented away from patch 14.

K. In the specification, please replace paragraph [0029] on page 4 with the following paragraph:

Now referring to FIGS. 6-8, another embodiment of the physical barriers 10 of FIGS. ~~1-5~~ 1A, 1B, 2, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 5A, and 5B is disclosed. Specifically, the plastic carrier 12 includes a peripheral edge 40. In FIGS. ~~1-5~~ 1A, 1B, 2, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 5A, and 5B, the edge 22 of FIGS. ~~1, 1A and 1B~~, the tail 26 of FIGS. ~~2-4~~ 2, 3A, 3B, 4A, and 4B, and the lip 30 of FIGS. 5A and 5B each define the peripheral edge 40 of the plastic carrier 12. To generate a more effective seal when received in the orifice of the panel member, patch 14 is attached to at least a portion of plastic carrier 12 and encapsulates the peripheral edge 40 of the plastic carrier 12.